

ALA Conference Knoxville 2023 Draft Program

Wednesday, May 24th, 2023

Concurrent Sessions A: 1:00-2:30 pm

A1. Of Roots and Wings: Tradition and Self-Actualization: Cultural Retention and Roots Across the Diaspora

Oluseun Tanimomo (Ghent University): “Love is fine for singing about”: Individualization, Interpersonal Risk and the Normal Chaos of Love in Ama Ata Aidoo’s *Changes: A Love Story* and Chimamanda Adichie’s *Americanah*

Olivier Tchouaffe (Southwestern University): On Domestic Politics, Jouissance and Organizing in a Neoliberal World

Chinyere Chinedu Ezekwesili (Los Angeles SouthWest College): Ideology and Self-realization in Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's *Americanah*

Justine Waluvengo (Vanderbilt University): Border Crossing: Black Women’s Subjectivity and the Limitations to Emancipation in Chimamanda Adichie’s *Americanah*

Gilbert Tarka Fai (Bamenda) Constructing New Spaces in Cross-Cultural Borders: The Immigrant Experience in Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie’s *Americanah*

A2. Motherland: African Feminisms and Postcoloniality

Peace Sorochi Longdet (University of Jos): African Women’s Fiction and the Foregrounding of Migratory Crises in Postcolonial Societies

Ben Yussif (Ohio University): Listen to the Voice of the Subaltern: Redefining Women’s Identity in African Literature

Gloria Ajami Makokha (Kenyatta University): Homing and Un-Homing: A Gendered Experience of African Women in the Diaspora in *Americanah*; *Behold the Dreamers*; *Beyond the Horizon* and *On Black Sisters Street*

Olaocha Nwabara (SUNY-Geneseo): Becoming, Writing Home: Culturally Determined Freedom in the Writings of Nigerian Diaspora Women

Amanda Smith (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign): Black Beauty and the Afropean Identity: An Analysis of Corporeal Aesthetics in Miano's *Blues pour Élise*

A3. Spirits, Embodiment, and Agency

Sue E. Houchins (Bates College): Movement of the Spirits: Transmigration of Souls in Robert Jones, Jr.'s Novel *The Prophets*

Londiwe Gamedze (UC Berkeley): The Souls of Migrants: Spiritual Migration in Bessie Head's *Maru* and *A Question of Power*

Aika Swai (University of Cape Town): Atlantic Glocality and the Mattering of Spirits

Asmaa Alshehri (University of Bisha): Women's Political Mobility and Social Immobility in *The Woman King*

A4. African Writers' Lives: Forms/Politics

Panel chair: Lily Saint (Wesleyan University) and Bhakti Shringarpure (University of Connecticut-Storrs)

Farah Bakaari (Cornell University); Beerluula, or the Many Political and Poetic Crossings of Somali Poets

Carli Coetzee (*Journal of African Cultural Studies*); African Writers' Lives and Planetary Futures

Subha Xavier (Emory University): Véronique Tadjo, African Griotte

Lily Saint (Wesleyan University): African Coetzee

A 5. Belonging and Othering

Roseline Adewuyi (Purdue University): The Ecology of Transnational Space and Identity Discontinuities: An Evaluation of African Immigrants in America

UcheChukwu Agbo (Southern Methodist University): The Violence of African Diasporization

Kari Miller (New York University): Pursuits of Happiness in the African Diaspora: The Paradox of the American Dream in Dinaw Mengestu's *The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears*

Ifeoma Nwosu-Okoli (Alex Ekwueme Federal University, Ndufu): Migration and Exploitation in Text and Context

Concurrent Sessions B: 2:45-4:15 pm

B1. Mobility, Magical Realism and Speculative Fiction

Karen Bower (University of San Francisco): Spurning the Surface: Descending Lines of Flight

Jason Price (University of North Alabama): Fleeing War and Kianda's Wrath: Indigenous Cosmopolitics and the Multitude in Pepetela's *The Return of the Water Spirit*

Joelle Vitiello (Macalester College): *Neptune Frost*: A Tale of Mobility Across Time and Space

Yuan-Chih (Sreddy) Yen (Northwestern University): Errant Human(itarian)ism and Mphuthumi Ntabeni's *The Wanderers*

Amatoritsero Ede (Mount Allison University): Magical Realism – An Afropolitan Re-evaluation

B2. Narrative Forms and Functions in African Literature

Emmanuel Omoghene Ogwu (ITCJ, Abidjan): Teju Cole and the Poetics of the Essay

George Joseph (Hobart & William Smith Colleges): Ekphrases of War: Situating Rashidah Ismaili's Unpublished Poetry Collection "In Shallah" between Classical Painting and Contemporary Video Art

Alexander Fyfe (University of Georgia): (Un)knowing the Self through Narrative: Mongo Beti's *Mission Terminée*

Craig Smith (Northwestern Polytechnic): Arrested Developments: Prison and the Contemporary African Bildungsroman

B3. Transcultural Encounters in Music and Cinema

Alexis Finet (Vanderbilt University): Kolinga's *Kongo* as a Transnationalist Discourse

Bernth Lindfors (University of Texas, Austin): First Impressions of Blind Tom, The Musical Savant, 1857-1866

Edgar Taylor (Makerere University): Jim Reeves, Jimmy Katumba and the Invisibility of Country Music in African Studies

Simon Lewis (College of Charleston): On America Street: Idrissou Mora-Kpai's Accidental Elegy for African-American Charleston

B4. Intra-African Migration and Kinship Structures: Reframing Afropolitanism

Chair: Carli Coetzee (*Journal of African Cultural Studies*)

Cristovão Nwachukwu (University of Florida): (Un)rooted Spaces of Belonging: Migrant Kinship Structures in Nadifa Mohamed's *Black Mamba Boy*

Rebecca Fasselt (University of Pretoria): From "Rainbow Family" to Afropolitan "Relatedness": Re-imagining Kinship in South African-based Intra-African Migration and Diasporic Writing

Kayode Odumboni (The Ohio State University): Contests of Belonging: *Black Panther* as a Parable on African Kinship

Renée Schattemann (Georgia State University): Movement in the Works of Sindiwe Magona

B5. Feminist and Postcolonial Discourses in Translation Theory and Practice 1

Translation Caucus Panel

Chair: Nathalie Arnold Koenings (Hampshire College)

Discussant: Wangui wa Goro (SOAS)

Meg Arenberg (Rutgers University): Publics/Politics/Poetics: Translating Mohammed Ghassani in the United States

Nathalie Carré (INALCO): Translating Gendered Readings of Shona Mythologies in Tsitsi Dangaremba's work into French

Natalie Arnold Koenings (Hampshire College): Translating for Yasmin and Mwajuma: negotiating gazes, patriarchy and cultural context in Adam Shafi's *Tug of War*

Thursday May 25th, 2023.

Concurrent Sessions C

9:00-10:30 a.m

C1. Roundtable

African Horror Cinema: History, Trends, and Innovations

Chair: Tama Hamilton-Wray (Michigan State University):

Maureen Ngozi Eke (Central Michigan University):

Olaocha Nwadiuto Nwabara: (SUNY-Geneseo)

Emilie Diouf (Brandeis University);

Tama Hamilton-Wray (Michigan State University)

C2. Roundtable

Feminisms – Centers, Boundaries, and Intersections

Chair: Chinyere Okafor:(Wichita State University)

Tomi Adeaga (University of Vienna)

Omofolabo Ajayi-Soyinka: (University of Kansas)

Ada Azodo (Indiana University Northwest)

Akachi Ezeigbo (Alex Ekwueme Federal University)

Naomi Nkealah (Witwatersrand University)

Chioma Opara (Rivers State University)

C3. FRACALA Panel: Mobilité, migration et transnationalisme : une projection postcoloniale au-delà des frontières

Chair: Patoimbamba Nikiema (University of Miami)

Leopold Mvuzolo (University of Pittsburgh): L'immigration face aux enjeux identitaires et juridiques dans Mur méditerranée de Louis-Philippe Dalembert

Patricia Seuchie (Christopher Newport University): A travers le sable et l'eau sans papiers : choix ou contrainte ? Migration transatlantique écrite par les romanciers postcoloniaux d'Afrique sub-saharienne.

Moussa Seck (Georgia College): Sur les traces de l'étranger: la reconstitution de la communauté post colonial

Patoimbasba Nikiema (University of Miami): Anagnorisis de la présence autre dans Atlantique de Mati Diop: une dialectique du discours sur l'immigration

C4. African Writers' Lives: Doing History

Panel chair: Lily Saint (Wesleyan University) and Bhakti Shringarpure (University of Connecticut-Storrs)

Jeanne-Marie Jackson (Johns Hopkins University): Literary Careers as Intellectual History: The Case of J.E. Casely Hayford

Khwezi Mkhize (University of the Witwatersrand): Peter Abrahams in Exile

Duncan Yoon (NYU-Gallatin): Global Sembène

Ndirangu Wachanga (University of Wisconsin): Whitewater. Making Life Sing in Pursuit of Utu – Reflections of Documenting the Life of Micere Githae Mugo

C5. Mobility versus Migration: Movement of African Texts and Bodies across Languages and Geographical Space.

Chair: Apala Bhowmick (Emory University)

Clare Ní Cheallaigh (University College Dublin): Fágúnwà and the World: Contextualizing the Assumption of Textual Mobility in the Work of D.O. Fágúnwà

Fred E. Lafortune (Boston University): The symbolic representation of Haiti in Ousmane Sembène's *La Noire de...* and Aberrahmane Sissako's *Timbuktu*

Apala Bhowmick (Emory University): Freud in a Red Fez: Reading Desire and Imagining Migration in Manele Labidi's *Un Divan À Tunis*

Modupe Olaogun (York University, Toronto): Mobility and Immobility as Crucibles of Possibility in Black Atlantic Crossings

C6. Migration and Belonging in Francophone Film and Literature

Edgard Sankara, University of Delaware: Cinéma de la marge au Burkina Faso: entre marginalité et succès

Guillaume Coly, Wake Forest University: Alain Gomis's *Félicité*: A Transnational Iteration of the *abiku*

Joachim Adams, Florida State University: L'aventure ambiguë et le sens de l'appartenance : comment trouver sa place dans un monde irréconciliable

Rokhaya Aballa Dieng, University of South Carolina: Senegalese Migration in *La Pirogue* and *Mbèkè mi*: A Supernatural Focus

C7: Transculturalism and Cosmopolitanism in the Francophone World

Kenneth Harrow (retired from Michigan State University): History as "Context" vs the Past as Memory Traces in Sarr's *La plus secrète mémoire des hommes*

Nnenna Onyima (University of Virginia): Un/Conscious Encounters: Embodiment and Enspiritment in Contemporary African Settings

Ousmane Lecoq Diop (University of Kansas): Multidirectional Cultural Navigation and Translations: The Question of Languages between "Sénégalité" and Cosmopolitanism in Contemporary Senegal

Mouhamedoul Niang (Colby College): Religious Marriage, Race and Intra-continental Migration: Tahar Ben Jelloun's Representation of the Senegalese-Moroccan Couple

Unionmwan Edebiri (University of Benin): Identity Crisis in Contemporary Francophone African Migrant Fiction: A Critique of Selected Novels of Fatou Diome and Alain Mabanckou.

Concurrent Sessions D: 10:45-12:15 pm

D1. To Stay or to Return: Identity and Belonging at Home and Abroad

Janice Spleth (West Virginia University): The Returning Veteran as Agent of Cultural Change in Leila Slimani's *In the Country of Others*

Gideon Brobbey (University of Ottawa: Going to Come: Ideology, Return Migration and National Development in J. E. Casely Hayford's *Ethiopia Unbound* and Kobina Sekyi's *The Blinkards*

Ikechukwu Otuu Egbuta (University of Nigeria, Nsukka): Root Identity, Migration, and Maturation as Postcolonial Authenticity Crises in Abdulrazak Gurnah's *The Last Gift* And Chris Abani's *GraceLand*.

H. Oby Okolocha (University of Benin, Benin City): Diasporic and Reverse Returns in Buchi Emecheta's *Kehinde* and *The New Tribe*

D2. Narratives of Kinship, Identity, and Loss

Cecilia Addei (University of Mines and Technology, Tarkwa, Ghana: Diasporic Citizenship: Slavery, Identity and Kinship in Yaa Gyasi's *Homegoing*

Beth Willey (University of Louisville): Pleasure and Pain: Desire, Gender, and Cruelty in Ama Ata Aidoo's Works

Marina Vlahaki (University of California, San Diego): The Theft of the Soul: The Limits of Embodiment and Transnational Mobility in Ama Darko's *Beyond the Horizon*

J. Roger Kurtz (Drexel University): Migration and Misdiagnosis in Grace Ogot's *The Promised Land*

Aaron Agorsor (Arizona State University): Hospitality as a Tool for Oppression in Octavia Butler's *Wild Seed*

D3. Transnationalism, Identity and Legacies of Colonialism and Slavery

Omar Dieng (Case Western Reserve University): Blackness/Africanness, Cultural Nationalism, and Belonging in Post-1980s Afro-European Literature

Patrícia Martinho Ferreira (University of Massachusetts-Amherst): Unveiling the African Presence in Portugal through Joaquim Arena's Palimpsestic and Reparative Writing

Heather Brady (Grand View University): White Feminist Discourse in Recent American Women's Travel Writing to Kenya

Ojel Anidi (Institute of Management and Technology, Enugu): The Slave Trade and Forced Migrations among the Igbo: A Study of Olaudah Equiano's Autobiography and An Igbo Folklore

D4. Graduate Caucus Roundtable (GSCALA) roundtable

The Academic Job Market: Anxieties, Trends, and Strategies.

Chair: Moradewun Adejunmobi (University of California-Davis)

Adéléké Adèkò (Ohio State University)

Phyllis Taoua (University of Arizona)

Stephanie Santana (UCLA)

Utitofon Inyang (University of California-Riverside)

D5. In Praise of Death: Poetry and Ritual Narratives in African Cinema and Popular Arts.

Chair: Olusegun Soetan (Pennsylvania State University):

Tolulope Akinwale (University of Wisconsin—Madison): Death Bi Yi Proud: Scenes of Abjection in Filmic Representations of Postcolonial African Urbanity

Kolawole Olaiya (Anderson University): Son, When Will Our Drake Hatch?: Shame, Stigma, and the Social Construction of Infertility in Nollywood Movies

Rejoice Abutsa (Cornell University):Elesin Oba, The King's Horseman: The Transnational Poetics of Death, In and Out of the Film Text

Muftiat Adeyi (University of Mississippi): Total Cinema: Simulating the Stage-on-screen in Biyi Bandele's *Elesin Oba*

D 6. Creativity and Its Institutions

Alessandra Di Maio (University of Palermo, Italy): *Transition @ 60*: The Black in the Mediterranean Blue

Olaocha Nwabara (SUNY Geneseo) and Alessandra Otero (SUNY Geneseo): Transforming Classroom Learning into Contributions to Library Research Guides for Black/Africana Studies Courses

Aaron Bartels-Swindells (Penn State University, University Park): Narrating "Native Life in South Africa": Sol Plaatje and the History of South African Realism

Mahriana Rofheart (Georgia Gwinnett College): Across Print and Digital Worlds: Transmedia Storytelling and Translation in Cameroonian and French Comics

Megan Cole Paustian (North Central College): The NGO and the Literature of the Humanitarian Atlantic

D7. Roundtable: Mĩcere Gĩthae Mũgo @80: Celebrating Excellence in Renaissance Pan African Thought and Literary Practice across the World, and the Power of Feminist Utu-centric Consciousness and Practice.

Chair: Wangui Goro (SOAS)

Concurrent Panels E: 1:00-2:30 pm

E1. Lusophone Caucus Guest Speaker

E2. Foundational African Writers Book Launch Panel

Khwezi Mkhize (Wits University): Es'kia Mphahlele and the Question of the Aesthetic

Christopher E.W. Ouma (University of Cape Town): Es'kia Mphahlele, Chemchemi and Pan-African Literary Publics

Stéphane Robolin (Rutgers University): Mphahlele's Writing in the Whirlwind

Makhosazana Xaba (University of Johannesburg):

E3. Doing Things with the Road in Niyi Osundare's Poetry

Chair: Olabode Ibronke (Rutgers University)

Mathew Brown (University of Wisconsin-Madison):

Adetayo Alabi (University of Mississippi): Osundare, *Oriki* Praise Tradition, and the Journey Motif in *If Only the Road Could Talk*

Niyi Osundare: Respondent

E 4. Seminar: African Writers' Lives: Queer and Gendered Selves.

Seminar Leader: Lily Saint (Wesleyan University) and Bhakti Shringarpure (University of Connecticut-Storrs)

Chair: Bhakti Shringarpure (University of Connecticut-Storrs): Writing Muslim Lives: Leila Aboulela

Lindsey Green-Simms (American University): Akwaeke Emezi: Writing Themselves

Shola Adenekan (Ghent University): Mapping the Experience of Migration Through the Digital Lives of Queer African Writers

Ainehi Egoro (University of Wisconsin-Madison): Tutuola's Story

E5. Roundtable: Trends in the New African Diasporic Literature

Chair: Lokangaka Losambe (University of Vermont)

Simon Lewis (College of Charleston)

Gĩchingiri Ndĩgĩrĩgĩ (University of Tennessee, Knoxville)

Martha Ndakalako (Gustavus Adolphus College)

Enajite Ojaruega (Delta State University)

Christine Grogan (University of Delaware)

Tanure Ojaide (University of North Carolina, Charlotte)

E6. Roundtable: Author/Critic Roundtable: *Zeb Silhouette* by Chinyere Okafor (Sub-Saharan Books, 2021)

Chioma Opara (Rivers State University)

Lekan Balogun (University of Cologne)

Abosede Afolayan (University of Lagos)

Chinyere Okafor (Wichita State University)

Tomi Adeaga (University of Vienna)

E7. Seminar: Problematizing Feminist/Decolonial Translation Practice:1

Seminar Leader: Wangui wa Goro SOAS (School of Oriental and African Studies)

Sarah M. Quesada (Duke University): Translating the Black Internationalist Nostalgia of 'el 68' in María Luisa Puga and Sami Tchak

May Kosba (Princeton University): “The arms of a lover”: Translating Liminality in Noor Naga’s *If an Egyptian Cannot Speak English*

Wangui wa Goro (SOAS and King’s College, London): Bringing It All Back Home: Translation of Abdulrazak Gurnah’s *Paradise* and Lupita Nyong’o’s *Sulwe* into Kiswahili.

Jess Oliveira (Federal University of Bahia and TU-Berlin): Intersectionality Through Sites, and Praxis: Epistemologies of Translation Mobilities, Locations, and Subjects.

Concurrent Sessions F: 2:45-4:15

F1. Teaching Panel: Encounters With African Literature Across Borders: 1 & 2

Panel One: “Teaching, Exploring and Promoting African Literature: Classroom, Community, and National Experiences”

Anthonia C. Kalu (University of California-Riverside): Teaching African Literatures: Linking Liberal Arts and the Digital Humanities

Adélékè Adéèkó (Ohio State University): Native Informant Anxiety

Tomi Adeaga (University of Vienna): Teaching a Research Seminar on African/Diaspora Literature in the Classroom

Blessing Diala-Ogamba (Coppin State University): Exploring African Literature in a Digital Format

F2. Crisscrossing Space and Time: Representing the Diversity of Movements in Sierra Leonean Literature

Chair: Mohamed Kamara (Washington and Lee University)

Ernest Cole (Hope College): “Behold the Dreamers!”: Mbolu Mbue’s *Dreamers*, Pede Hollist’s *Returnees*, and the Reconfiguration of the American Dream

Oumar Cherif Diop (Kennesaw State University): Space, Trauma, and Identity in Delia Jarrett-Macauley’s *Moses, Citizen and Me*

Mohamed Kamara (Washington and Lee University): A Season of Migration to Freedom: The Case of Namina Fornah’s *The Gilded Ones* and Yema Lucilda Hunter’s *Road to Freedom*

Saidu Bangura (Universidade de Cabo Verde): Returnees or (Re)Settlers?: A Sociohistorical and Sociolinguistic Reading of Yema Lucilda Hunter's *Road to Freedom*

F3. Roundtable on Matthew H Brown's Indirect Subjects. Nollywood's Local Address

Chair: Carli Coetzee (*Journal of African Cultural Studies*)

Matthew H Brown (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Moradewun Adejunmobi (University of California-Davis)

Lindsey Green-Simms (American University)

Tolulope Akinwale (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Olusegun Soetan (Pennsylvania State University)

F4. PATCALA Panel

Migration and Liminality

Chair: Joy Wrolson (Independent Scholar): She and He: Audience Reception and Performance Aspects of Looking and Finding Home

Modupe Olaogun (York University): Stymied Migration: Liminality and the Gothic Worlds of DeWet's *Crossing* and Oriahi's *Taxi Driver: Oko Ashewo*

Peter Ntephe (Independent Scholar): Ingesting Liminality in African Literature – from Real Food to a Pot of Soup

Emeka Nwadiora (Temple University): In Their Own Words. Hopes, Faith, Success and Impediments: Narratives of African Refugees, Asylees, Immigrants, Refugees, Migrants and Non-immigrants in the United States

F5. Space, Place, and Identity across the Black Francophone Atlantic

Felisa Vergara Reynolds (University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign): Aminata Sow Fall's *Douceurs du Bercail*; Or, Moving through White Spaces while Black

El Hadji Moustapha Diop (Macalester College): Citing/Siting the Postcolonial City: Djibril Diop Mambety's Road Movie Trilogy

Marion Tricoire (Grinnell College): Writing Douala and Elsewhere: Mapping Regional Mobilities in Max Lobe's *Loin de Douala* and Hemley Boum's *Les jours viennent et passent*

Michael Montesano (Princeton University): Ambiguous Globalisms: Hybridity, Intertextuality, and the Enduring Lessons *L'aventure ambiguë*

F 6 Roundtable

Text to Screen: Adapting Texts for Film

Chair: Irene Agunloye

M.J Simms (M.J. Simms-Maddox, Inc.)

Virginia Phiri (Zimbabwe Women's Writers)

Marie Umeh (CUNY)

Tosin Tume (Federal University, Oye- Ekiti)

Obiageli Okolocha (University of Benin)

F 7 LusoHispanophone Caucus of the ALA panel

Narrative, Spatial, and Digital, Border Crossers: Afro-Hispanic Cosmopolitans, Migrants, Refugees and Don Quixotes.

Chair: Dorothy Odaty-Wellington (University of Guelph)

Melissa E. Schindler (University of North Georgia): Don Quixote in Afro-diasporic Writing

Dorothy Odaty-Wellington (University of Guelph): Boundary-Crossing as Resistance: Monfis and Representations of Saharawi Women by Lehdia Mohamed Dafa

Dosinda G, Alvite (Denison University): Questioning Cosmopolitanism in Avila Laurel's *Dientes blancos, piel negra*

Anna Tybinko (Vanderbilt University): Re-envisioning the Spanish City: African Migrant Narratives through a Geospatial Lens

Keynote Lecture: 4:30-6:00 pm.

“The Lettered City and the Making of African Literature”

Professor Simon Gikandi,

Class of 1943 University Professor of English, Princeton University.

Friday, May 26th, 2023

Concurrent Sessions G: 9:00-10:30 am.

G1. North Africa Caucus Panel Representations of Indigeneity in Colonial and Postcolonial North Africa

Chair: Matthew Brauer (University of Tennessee, Knoxville);

Katia Bellal (University of Virginia): The Saga of the Amrouche Family's Identity: History, Culture, Language(s) and Politics in Service of Identity Construction and the Preservation of Kabyle Heritage

Fazia Aïtel (Claremont McKenna): Representing and Processing Trauma: The Act of Writing for Amazigh Women Writers

Mallory Nischan (East Tennessee State University): Orality as Movement: Dihya/Kahina in Maghrebi Francophone Literature

Matthew Brauer (University of Tennessee, Knoxville): Literature, Property, and Tamazgha Orality as Movement: Dihya/Kahina in Maghrebi Francophone Literature

Chenise Calhoun (Tulane University): The (In)Significance of Indigeneity: Jewish and Black populations of Southern Algeria

Anouar El Younssi (Oxford College of Emory University): Tamazight in the Moroccan Public Space: The Resurrection of the Region's Amazigh Roots?

G 2. Roundtable: Emerging Conversations: African Writers and Recent Literary Awards

Chair: Maureen Eke (Central Michigan University);

Wangui wa Goro (SOAS & King's College, London)

Aliko Songolo (University of Wisconsin-Madison);

Maureen Eke (Central Michigan University);

G3. LusoHispanophone Caucus of the ALA Panel

Africans Moving Across Spaces and Epistemologies: Identities, Approaches and Practices in Afro- Brazilian and Angolan Contexts.

Chair: Joanna Boampong (University of Ghana): Return Migrations to West Africa: Perspectives on the Tabom, the Afro-Brazilian Ex-Slave Community of Ghana

Ayodeji Richard Olugbuyiro (The Ohio State University): Africans, Brazilians, Afropolitans: Freedom Quest and the Transnational Ethos of Afro-Brazilian Return to Africa

Yaw Agawu-Kakraba (Pennsylvania State University): Practice and Praxis: Migration and its Discontents in The Restless Crucible

David Balosa (University of Maryland, Baltimore County) Agostinho Neto's Poetry as Global Intercultural World Literature

G4. Roundtable: Foundational African Writers: Peter Abrahams, Noni Jabavu, Sibusiso Nyembezi & Es'kia Mphahlele: Remembrances, Reflections and Critiques.

Chair: Khwezi Mkhize (Wits University);

Rebecca Fasselt (University of Pretoria);

Lily Saint (Wesleyan University)

G5. Niyi Osundare: Poetics, Theory, and New Critical Directions:

Olabode Ibrinke (Rutgers University);

Adélékè Adéèkó (Ohio State University): Reading Òṣùndàré Errantly, and Happily So

Nathan Suhr-Sytsma (Emory University): Niyi Osundare's Green Poetics and the Issue of Anthropocentrism

Oyeniye Okunoye (Obafemi Awolowo University): Niyi Osundare's Poetry and the Towncrier Tradition

Respondent: Niyi Osundare

G6. Roundtable: Teaching with Creative Assessment: Creative Methods for Critical Engagement

Chair: Esther de Bruijn (King's College, London) - chair

Esther de Bruijn (King's College, London) - chair

Ainehi Egoro (University of Madison-Wisconsin)

Kirk Sides (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Uchechukwu Umezurike (University of Calgary)

G7. The Past and its Discontents: Narrating Colonial and Post-Colonial Trauma

Anique John (California State University-Long Beach): The Hyphenated Black-British Identity: A Dilemma & The Afro-English Solution

John Kurpiel (West Virginia University): "Is this the way the English live?": Migrant Displacement and Constructs of English Prestige within Andrea Levy's *Small Island*

Thelma Pinto (Hobart & William Smith Colleges): Zoë Wicomb's *Still Life*

Majed Alenezi (Northern Borders University, Saudi Arabia): Critique of Religious Discourse: Terrorism, Extremism in Fadia Faqir's *Willow Trees Don't Weep*

Kanika Batra (Texas Tech University): Black Consciousness Women and the Soweto "Not-Autobiography" across Space and Time

G 8. African Crossings in Online Spaces: Global Transmissions and Transmutations of African (Popular) Culture and Arts through Digital Media

Chair: Matthias Krings (Johannes Gutenberg University);

Edgard Sankara (University of Delaware)

Robin K. Crigler (Dickinson College): Afropolitan Influence: Gender, Comedy, and Marketing in Global Africa

Nneoma Onyinye Onwuegbuchi (University of Wisconsin-Madison): "Male Barbies": Trans-Identity, Body Politics, and Social Media in Africa

Izue Nwankwo (Johannes Gutenberg University): African Stand-up Humour in Transcultural Sites: How Laughter Travels across Difference

Hope Krisko (Southern Illinois Edwardsville University): Decolonizing Senegalese Worldview and Identity: A Comparative Analysis of Senegalese Literature Through Time

Concurrent Sessions H: 10:45-12:15 pm.

H1. Language, Identity, and the Poetics of Representation

Josiane Banini (Juniata College): La transformation identitaire du migrant africain dans l'œuvre romanesque d'Alain Mabanckou

Gérard Keubeung (McDaniel College): D'Aké Loba à Biyaoula: représentations de l'immigré africain en France et poétique d'une écriture

Arnaud Tcheutou (Susquehanna University): Des migrations et circulations virtuelles

H2. Graduate Students Caucus of the ALA (GSCALA) Roundtable

Interdisciplinary Approaches to African Literary and Cultural Studies: What? Why? How?

Esther de Bruijn (King's College, London)

Cajetan Iheka (Yale University)

Matthew Brown (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

H3. Roundtable

Beyond Bólèkájà Aesthetics: Automobility as Critical Infrastructure in Postcolonial Africa
Chair: Carli Coetzee (*Journal of African Cultural Studies*);

Utifon Inyang, (University of California-Riverside)

Tolulope Akinwale (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Discussant: Lindsey Green-Simms (American University)

H4. Spaces, Places, and Temporalities

Baron Glanvill (Carnegie Mellon University): What We Know about the Kruger Park: Representations of Safari-form

Hayley Wilson (University of Tennessee, Knoxville): Transplantation: Garden Spaces in Coetzee and Kincaid

Hilary Kowino (University of Minnesota-Duluth): Advancing Decolonized, Equitable, and Just Africa

Chielozona Eze (Northeastern Illinois University): Migrancy, Transculturality, and World Openness: Femi Osofisan and the Challenges of Modernity in Africa

Peter Vakunta (Defense Language Institute-Monterey, California): On Geographic and Metrolingual Migrations in Africa's Post-colonies

H5. Feminisms – Centers, Boundaries, and Intersections (In memory of Professor Mary Ebum Modupe Kolawole, 1949 - 2021)

Chinyere Okafor (roundtable chair) (Wichita State University)

Obioma Nnaemeka (Indiana University)

Chioma Opara (Rivers State University)

Omofolabo Ajayi-Soyinka (University of Kansas)

Tomi Adeaga University of Vienna).

Akachi Ezeigbo (Alex Ekwueme Federal University)

Ada Azodo Indiana (University North West)

H6. Conversations with Authors: showcase video-casts of conversations with Wole Soyinka, Ngugi wa Thiong'o, Tsitsi Dangarembga, Tsitsi Jaji, Veronique Tadjo, Boubacar Diop, Yvonne Owuor.

Moderators: Simon Gikandi and Ndirangu Wachanga (Princeton African Memory Lab).

H 7 PATCALA panel

Our Bodies/Ourselves: African and African Diasporan Women Speak

P. Jane Splawn (Livingstone College – retired): Reading Performance: Ntozake Shange's "abortion cycle #1"

Joy Wrolson (Independent Scholar: Dangarembga, "She No Longer Weeps"

Omofalabo Ajayi-Soyinka (University of Kansas): Selected Readings from Contemporary Plays by African Women

Rose Sackeyfio (Winston Salem State University): Postcolonial Ruptures in the Somali-Italian Diaspora in Igiaba Scego's *Adua* and Cristina Ali Farah's *Little Mother*

Lunch Break: 12:15-1:00 pm.

Concurrent Sessions I: 1:00-2:30 pm.

I 1. Roundtable: African Feminist Fiction in the Classroom

Chair: Emilie Diouf (Brandeis University)

Marame Gueye (East Carolina University)

Olaocha Nwabara (SUNY Geneseo)

Lindsey Green-Simms (American University)

I 2 Panel: Contemporary Anglophone African Poetics and the Politics of Belonging

Chair: Chielona Eze

Hope Eze (University of Alberta): Stateless Within Borders: Rethinking Homeland in Olajide Salawu's *Preface for Leaving Homeland*

Iquo DianaAbasi Obot (University of Alabama): Home, Belonging, and Violence in the Poetry of Sadia Hassan and Jamila Osman

Uchechukwu Umezurike (University of Calgary): History and the Call of Water in Romeo Oriogun's *Nomad*

Ngozi Kris Ogbodo (University of Nigeria Nsukka): Decolonizing Senegalese Worldview and Identity: A Comparative Analysis of Senegalese Literature Through Time

I 3. Interrogating Race, Identity, and Belonging in Literature and Film

May Kosba (Princeton University): Fateful Triangles: Locating Egyptian Race-Consciousness in Bahā' Tāher's *Wāhat al-ghurūb*

Nnenna Ezeh (University of Benin): Migration to the Greener Side: Utopian Escape for Nigerian Youths

Joya Uraizee (University of Missouri): Refugee Forever: Time and Mobility in Yewande Omotoso's *Bom Boy*

Gĩchingiri Ndĩgĩrĩgĩ (University of Tennessee, Knoxville): "Mũgo! Stop sleeping so late like a European." Decolonizing Ethnography in Mũgo Gatheru's *Child of Two Worlds*

Felicia Annin (Valley View University): Growth in a Time of Change: Patch Dynamics Analysis of Ngũgĩ's *Wizard of the Crow*

**I 4. Roundtable: Women in Self-Publishing: New Frontiers in African Writing”
(WOCALA Panel, 2023 ALA)**

Chair: M. J. Simms-Maddox (Indie Author)

Elinettie K. Chabwera (Indie Author)

Gloria Amami Makokha (Kenyatta University, Kenya)

Virginia Phiri (WOCALA)

M. J. Simms-Maddox (Indie Author)

I 5. Orality, Decoloniality, and Poetic Knowledge

Discussant: Olabode Ibrinke

Chigbo Arthur Anyaduba (University of Winnipeg): A Poetics of Laughter in Osundare’s Waiting Laughters

Omotayo Oloruntoba-Oju (Adekunle Ajasin University): Niyi Osundare, Decoloniality and the Utter-alter Tradition

Gabriel Bámgbóṣé (University of California-San Diego): Niyi Osundare’s Poetic Knowledge

Kolawole Olaiya: “The World Is Like a Mask Dancing”: Writing Back as a Pedagogical Tool for Teaching Niyi Osundare’s Poems in the American South

Respondent: Niyi Osundare

**I 6. Roundtable: Immigrants’ Voices: Narratives of Movement, Identity, and Parenting
(Author/Critic Roundtable)**

Chair: Blessing Diala-Ogamba (Coppin State University)

Ada Uzoamaka Azodo (Indiana University, Northwest)

Akachi Adimora Ezeigbo (Alex Ekwueme Federal University)

Omofolabo Ajayi-Soyinka (University of Kansas)

Tomi Adeaga (University of Vienna)

Naana Banyiswa-Horne (Santa Fe College, Gainesville)

H. Oby Okolocha (University of Benin, Benin City, Nigeria)

I 7. Creativity and Its Institutions

Alessandra Di Maio (University of Palermo, Italy): *Transition @ 60: The Black in the Mediterranean Blue*

Olaocha Nwabara (SUNY Geneseo) and Alessandra Otero (SUNY Geneseo): Transforming Classroom Learning into Contributions to Library Research Guides for Black/Africana Studies Courses

Aaron Bartels-Swindells (Penn State University, University Park): Narrating "Native Life in South Africa": Sol Plaatje and the History of South African Realism

Mahriana Rofheart (Georgia Gwinnett College): Across Print and Digital Worlds: Transmedia Storytelling and Translation in Cameroonian and French Comics

Megan Cole Paustian (North Central College): The NGO and the Literature of the Humanitarian Atlantic

I 8. Translators' Forum: A Reading & Discussion

Concurrent Sessions J: 2:45-4:15 pm.

J 1. Roundtable: Teaching African Literature in the 21st Century: The Classroom, Scholarly Work, and the Exigencies of Our Time.

Chair: Shola Adenekan (Ghent University)

Kwabena Opoku-Agyemang , (University of Ghana-Legon)

Anthonia Kalu (, University of California- Riverside)

Tomi Adeaga (, University of Vienna)

Amatoritsero Ede, (Mount Allison University)

J 2. *JALA* Roundtable: "Proposing, Planning, and Participating in a Journal Special Issue."

Chair: Phyllis Taoua (University of Arizona)

Meg Arenberg (Rutgers University)

Lokangaka Losambe (University of Vermont)

Dorothy Odartey-Wellington (University of Guelph)

J 3. Book Panel: Lindsey Green-Simms, *Queer African Cinema*

Emilie Diouf (Brandeis University)

Sreddy Yen (Northwestern University)

Bhakti Shringarpure (University of the Witwatersrand)

Anne Gulick (University of South Carolina)

Grace Musila (University of the Witwatersrand)

J 4 Globalization and the Question of the Human in Francophone Cultural Production

Chair: Kasongo Kapanga (University of Richmond)

Rémi Armand Tchokothe (University of Vienna): “Entré en tant que cousin, sorti en tant que gendarme”: The Geopoet(h)ics of the Stranger - « Intranger » in the Comoros Archipelago

Oumar Cherif Diop (Kennesaw State University); Migrations and the challenges to Humanism in Mohamed Mbougar Sarr’s Novels.

Monika Brodnicka (Amherst College): Crossing to Perfection: The Biography of an Unlikely Initiate in *The Fortunes of Wangrin*

Kasongo Kapanga (University of Richmond): When Immigration Becomes an Empty Word: Mujila’s *Tram 83* and the Non-Citizen Being

J5. Temporality, Pan-Africanism and the Political Impetus of Afrofuturism

Matthew Omelsky (University of Rochester): Sofia Samatar’s Otherworldly Beings: Experimental Speculative Fiction and the Production of Knowledge

Omotola Okunlola (University of Wisconsin-Madison); Reading the “Master Harmonizer”: PanAfricanist Consciousness in Nnedi Okorafor’s *Binti* Series

Ayodele Ibiyemi (Marquette University): Love Letters from the Diaspora: Yoruba Culture in Tomi Adeyemi’s *Legacy of Orisha* Trilogy

Penny Cartwright (University of Oxford): "Wearing roller skates through the history of this strange land": Motile Style in Kojo Laing's *Woman of the Aeroplanes*

Melinda Backer (University of Tennessee, Knoxville): Crossing the Boundaries of Place and Time: Storytelling as Women’s Work in Marlon James’s *Moon Witch, Spider King*

J 6. Roundtable: Teaching with Creative Assessment: Creative Methods for Critical Engagement

Esther de Bruijn (King's College, London)

Uchechukwu Umezurike (University of Calgary)

Kirk Sides (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Ainehi Egoro (University of Madison-Wisconsin)

Keynote Lecture: 4:30-6:00 pm.

"The Burning: The Untold Story of Africa's Refugee Crisis"

Isabella Alexander-Nathani, UCLA

Saturday May 27, 2023

Concurrent Sessions K: 9:00-10:30 a.m

K 1. GSCALA Panel: African Diasporic Mobilizations and Cultural Production

Chair: Anne Gulick (University of South Carolina);

Rejoice Abutsa (Cornell University): Transnational Black Cinema(s): The Nollywood Epic, The Woman King, and the Invisibility of American Capital

Chichi Ayalogu (Carleton University): Diasporic Witnessing and the Nigerian Postcolony

K 2. Roundtable: Kanika Batra's Worlding Postcolonial Sexualities Publics, Counterpublics, Human Rights.

Chair: Carli Coetzee (*Journal of African Cultural Studies*);

Bhakti Shringarpure (University of Connecticut);

Janet Remington (University of York);

Kanika Batra (Texas Tech University)

K 3. The Grass Is Not Always Greener on the Other Side: Narratives of Disillusionment

Safiya Ismaila (University of Abuja): The African Search For Greener Pastures & Post-Migration Disillusionment: A Textual Analysis of Olusegun Adeniyi's *From Frying Pan to Fire*

Faith Ben-Daniels (Akonten Appiah-Menka University of Skills Training and Entrepreneurial Development): Migration and Mobility—Putting an Emotional Distance

Samuel Kwesi Nkansah (University of Cape Coast): Immigration: Foreign Spaces and The African Illusion

Jonathan Essuman (Akonten Appiah-Menka University of Skills Training and Entrepreneurial Development): Moving In, Fitting Not: An Autopsy of City Life in Kaine Agary's *Yellow-Yellow*

Bernard Ayo Oniwe (Dominican University, Ibadan): Breathing with Two Lungs: Doubles in Dinaw Mengestu's *The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears*

K 4. Trends in African Oral and Written Poetry and Poetics

Chair: Ernest Emenyonu (University of Michigan-Flint)

Kofi Anyidoho (University of Ghana, Legon): New Frontiers for African Heroic Saga: The Sahara Testament

Mawuli Adjei (University of Ghana, Legon): Lost in Translation: Navigating the Contours of Kofi Anyidoho's Bilingual Poetry

Ojel Anidi (Institute of Management & Technology (IMT), Enugu): Igbu Evu (Praise Poetry): A Lasting Festive Tradition in Igboland, Nigeria

Milena Vlastic (University of Belgrade): The Poetry of Kofi Anyidoho: Modernism and Neo/Post/Colonialism

K 5. Aesthetics of Movement and Narration

Simona Bertacco (University of Louisville): Translation as the Language of Migration in M. NourbeSe Philip's *Zong!*

Rume Kpadamrophe (University of South Carolina): Nostalgia and the Narrative of Progress in Chinua Achebe's *No Longer at Ease*

Akin Adesokan (Indiana University): Four Hypotheses on Black Motions

Moradewun Adejunmobi (University of California, Davis): Aesthetic Autonomy and the Economics of New Seriality in West African Screen Media

Onyeka Dike (McGill University): Narrating the Nation: Nigerian Pidgin in the Context of World Literature

Concurrent Sessions L: 10:45-12:15 pm.

L 1: Roundtable: Migration and African Literature: Theories and Approaches to Research in the Field. (ALA-EC Sponsored Roundtable)

Chair: Pauline Ada Uwakweh (North Carolina A&T State University)

Anthonia Kalu (University of California-Riverside)

Mohamed Kamara (Washington and Lee University)

Chioma Opara (Rivers State University)

Maramé Gueye (East Carolina University)

Mathias Orhero (McGill University, Montréal)

Bayo Omolola (Howard University)

L 2: Tejumola Olaniyan Legacy Project Roundtable Movements and Accents

Chair: Carli Coetzee (*Journal of African Cultural Studies*)

Carli Coetzee (*Journal of African Cultural Studies*)

Utitofon Inyang (University of California, Riverside)

Theophilus Okunlola (University of Wisconsin, Madison)

Discussant: Gabriel Bámbósé (University of California, San Diego)

L3. In the Shadow of Biafra (Film Screening and Roundtable)

Louisa Uchum Egbunike (Durham University)

Nathan Richards (University of Nottingham)

L4. A Round Table on Ngozi Chuma-Udeh's *Forlorn Fate*

Ngozi Chuma-Udeh

Uche Amah

L 5.

Home(lands): Shifting Space, Place, and Time across the Diaspora

Mathias Orhero (McGill University): Negotiating Home in New World African Diasporic Writing: The Niger Delta and Black Canadian Geographies in Nduka Otiono's *DisPlace* and Amatoritsero Ede's *Teardrops on the Weser*

Modupe Olaogun (York University, Toronto): Mobility and Immobility as Crucibles of Possibility in Black Atlantic Crossings

Debra S.Boyd (Independent Scholar): New Diasporas of Nomads and Sedentaries

Maria-Gratias Sinon (Penn State University): "How Do You Use Your Rage?": Exploring Black Women Migration in Nikyatu Jusu's *Nanny*

L6. Researching, Writing and Publishing African Literature: Challenges & Outcomes

Chair: Ernest Emenyonu (University of Michigan-Flint)

Cajetan Iheka (Yale University): Shaping the African Environmental Humanities

Chiji Akoma (Villanova University): In Search of *Icheoku*: Challenges of Digital Archiving in Nigeria

Adetayo Alabi (University of Mississippi): African Languages and the Autobiographical Genre

Obi Nwakanma (University of Central Florida): African Literature: A Janus--faced Development